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# State of Utah

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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S/047/034

September 9, 1992

TO: Minerals File

FROM: Tony Gallegos, Reclamation Engineer *aa*

RE: Site Inspection, Ridge Rock Mining, Ridge Rock Mine, S/047/033, Uintah County, Utah

Date of Inspection: September 3, 1992  
Time of Inspection: 0930 - 1030  
Conditions: Overcast  
Participants: Pete Sokolosky, D.J. Beaupeurt-Schantz, Ralph Brown, BLM; Tony Gallegos, DOGM

The purpose of this inspection was to evaluate the reclamation of the site and determine if neighboring mine disturbances were encroaching on the BLM administered lands. The last Division inspection was performed in August 1990, jointly with the BLM.

The site is basically divided into two main areas: 1) the level area near the river, and 2) the hillside area. The entire site was generally regraded to a satisfactory condition some time ago. Vegetation is currently growing on the site, although it appears to be due to natural invasion rather than the result of seeding. The hillside area has sufficient vegetative cover to stabilize the area, although the species are not all desirable. The level area has sparse amounts of vegetation and is more sandy than the hillside area. A large cobble pile exists at the site, although it was unclear whether this pile was on BLM land or adjacent private land. Several trenches still exist at the site, although these disturbances may not have been created by Ridge Rock Mining.

While inspecting this site, two men involved with the adjacent Yerian Mine (S/047/034) arrived. They were Jerry Fitzen, co-owner of Jetco the current mine operator, and Grant Grimm, an equipment owner. A discussion involving all parties, was held regarding the issue of the cobble pile disturbances from the Yerian mine encroaching upon BLM land. Mr. Fitzen informed us that Jetco had entered into an agreement with Dennis Setliff, the previous Yerian Mine operator and/or the Ashtons as claim owners. In this

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agreement Jetco was to be responsible for any new mining disturbance and Mr. Setliff was to be responsible for the old mining disturbance. Mr. Fitzen claims that the encroachment was the result of the old mining operations and therefore, the BLM should look to Mr. Setliff for resolution.

In conclusion, it was felt by both agencies that the level area of the Ridge Rock Mine should be reseeded before reclamation release could be granted. In the encroachment matter, it was felt that the Division should first seek to clarify responsibility for the mining disturbances on the adjacent private property and encroachment area prior to the BLM taking any further action.

jb

cc: Pete Sokolosky, BLM, Diamond Mtn. RA  
Holland Shepherd, DOGM  
Yerian Mine File S/047/034